

**California Horse Racing Board**

1010 Hurley Way, Suite 300  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
(916) 263 – 6000  
(916) 263 – 6042 Fax



**REPORT OF THE BOARD OF STEWARDS**  
**LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION**  
**TO THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD**

Honorable Gregory L. Ferraro, DVM, Chairman

Honorable Oscar Gonzales, Vice Chairman

Honorable Dennis V. Alfieri, Member

Honorable Wendy Mitchell, Member

Honorable Alex Solis, Member

Rick Baedeker, Executive Director

Darrel McHargue, Chief Steward

Report of the Board of Stewards for the week of February 11, 2020 through February 16, 2020.

**Thursday**

02/13/2020

**(1) DUTY STEWARD**

Tom Ward was in the office this past Tuesday, Wednesday and today to oversee the entry process and handle any scratches or changes. The racing programs filled relatively well, with the latest draw taking place at 3:15pm. The Cal Bred races offered each day failed to attract a sufficient number of entries.

**Friday**

02/14/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

3<sup>rd</sup> Race #1 Irish Jack (Entered back) Refund of \$9,185.00

7<sup>th</sup> Race #6 Bo Times 9 (Entered back) Refund of \$318.95

**(2) RIDER EXCUSED**

Jockey Carlos Huerta was excused from his lone mount of the evening as he called in sick. Excess weight may have led to his illness. A replacement rider, Irving Lara, was named, but since he was going to be five pounds overweight, the owner did not want to use him. As it turned out, the rider who ultimately rode the horse, Eduardo Rojas Fernandez, was five over himself. The horse finished second.

**(3) JOCKEY RULINGS**

Ruling # 32

JOCKEY ALBERTO ZEPEDA IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND-FIRST OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS), DURING THE SIXTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 9, 2020.

Ruling # 33

JOCKEY EDUARDO NICASIO IS FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND-SECOND OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS), DURING THE NINTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY

9, 2020.

These rulings were issued as both riders were guilty of violating the "crop" rule. There were no excuses given. Mr. Zepeda was counseled as to what was permitted as he thought that strikes on the shoulder did not count. Mr. Nicasio did not appear to offer a defense.

**(4) TRAINER RULING AFTER STIPULATED AGREEMENT**

**Ruling #34**

ACTING ON A STIPULATED AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD, TRAINER ANGELA AQUINO, WHO STARTED THE HORSE "AJAC" IN THE FIRST RACE ON SEPTEMBER 20, 2019 AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE IS FINED THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$3,000.00)\*, SUSPENDED THIRTY (30) DAYS) AND PLACED ON PROBATION FOR ONE YEAR FROM THE DATE OF THIS RULING PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1887(a)(b) (TRAINER OR OWNER TO INSURE CONDITION OF HORSE) AND RULE #1859.5 (DISQUALIFICATION UPON POSITIVE TEST) FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES #1843 (a, b & d) (MEDICATION, DRUGS AND OTHER SUBSTANCES) (FLUPHENAZINE - CLASS II), AND #1843.1 (PROHIBITED DRUG SUBSTANCES).

FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF THE THIRTY (30) DAY SUSPENSION ARE STAYED PROVIDED ANGELA AQUINO IS NOT IN VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULES AND REGULATIONS #1843, #1843.6 AND #1887 REGARDING CLASS I, II, OR III DRUG SUBSTANCES DURING THE TERM OF PROBATION. IF ANGELA AQUINO VIOLATES A CONDITION OF HER PROBATION, THE ABOVE REFERENCED FIFTEEN (15) DAY STAY OF SUSPENSION SHALL BE LIFTED AND THE ACTUAL SUSPENSION SHALL BE IMPOSED AFTER NOTICE AND HEARING. THE FIFTEEN (15) DAY SUSPENSION SHALL BE SERVED FROM FEBRUARY 24, 2020 THROUGH MARCH 9, 2020.

DURING THE TERM OF SUSPENSION ALL LICENSES AND LICENSE PRIVILEGES OF ANGELA AQUINO ARE SUSPENDED AND PURSUANT TO CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1528 (JURISDICTION OF STEWARDS TO SUSPEND OR FINE) ANGELA AQUINO IS DENIED ACCESS TO ALL PREMISES IN THIS JURISDICTION.

This ruling was issued after all parties involved in the case signed off on the agreement.

**(5) REFUND**

A refund was ordered in the eighth race as #1 JR Kaweahs Mountain broke through the stall doors, unseated the rider and ran off. The late scratch reduced the field to four betting interests and required the cancellation of "Show" wagering. The refund amounted to \$12,132.03. The rider, Oscar Andrade, Jr., was not injured.

**(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	483	\$66,460.80
Off track	1,625	\$177,942.50
Out of state	N/A	\$763,772.56
Total	2,108	\$1,008,175.86

**Saturday**  
02/15/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

1<sup>ST</sup> Race #2 Bottle Rocket (Vet-sick) Refund of \$168.45  
2<sup>nd</sup> Race #6 Dannybob (Vet-injured) Refund of \$610.50  
5<sup>th</sup> Race #1 Vanessuky (entered back) Refund of \$170.00  
#7 Apollitical Royal (First time gelding-not reported) Refund of \$176.40

**(2) RIDERS EXCUSED**

Efrain Hernandez was excused from his mount this evening due to illness, while Minor Arana was feeling the effects of a morning training accident and was too sore to ride. Replacement riders were named.

**(3) VIDEO REVIEW**

Christian Aragon was in the office to review the first race from Friday evening, during which he was responsible for unnecessary contact during the run down the backstretch. While the ride was not worthy of a penalty, Mr. Aragon was cautioned to leave more room between his mount and horses to his inside. He said that he would comply.

**(4) LATE DECLARATION**

There was a late scratch from the second race as Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald reported that #8 Barb's Valentine flipped in the saddling paddock. She recommended that the horse be withdrawn, with the resulting refund amounting to \$4,864.00.

**(5) QUIET EVENING**

All other matters during the racing program were routine.

**(6) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	952	\$79,381.50
Off track	1,768	\$224,067.10
Out of state	N/A	\$642,753.66
Total	2,720	\$946,202.26

**Sunday**  
02/16/2020

**(1) EARLY DECLARATIONS**

4<sup>th</sup> Race #6 Jellybeankristine (Vet- unsound) Refund of \$168.00  
5<sup>th</sup> Race #1 A Short Chocolate (Vet-sick) Refund of \$137.35  
8<sup>th</sup> Race #2 Fire by Night (Vet-injured) Refund of \$198.45

**(2) RULINGS**

**Ruling # 35**

JOCKEY OSCAR M. PEINADO IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND-FIRST OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS), DURING THE FIFTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 15, 2020

**Ruling # 36**

JOCKEY JAIRO RANGEL IS FINED TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$200.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND-SECOND OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS), DURING THE FIFTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 15, 2020.

**Ruling # 37**

JOCKEY RAUL A. VALENZUELA IS FINED ONE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$100.00)\* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1688(b)(6) (USE OF RIDING CROP-MORE THAN THREE TIMES IN SUCCESSION, WITHOUT GIVING THE HORSE A CHANCE TO RESPOND-FIRST OFFENSE WITHIN THE PAST 60 DAYS), DURING THE SIXTH RACE AT LOS ALAMITOS RACE COURSE ON FEBRUARY 15, 2020.

These rulings were issued as the riders accepted responsibility for violating the "crop" rule.

**(3) RULING**

**Ruling # 38**

TRAINER ROBERTO DOMINGUEZ IS FINED SEVEN HUNDRED AND FIFTY DOLLARS (\$750.00) \* FOR VIOLATION OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULE #1865 (ALTERING OF SEX OF HORSE-FAILED TO NOTIFY RACING SECRETARY THAT APOLLITCAL ROYAL WAS A GELDING AT TIME OF ENTRY).

This ruling was issued as Mr. Dominguez did not have a legitimate excuse for failing to properly report the gelding of the horse Apollitical Royal, causing a late scratch from the fifth race on Saturday, February 15, 2020.

**(4) RULING**

**Ruling # 39**

JOCKEY MARCIAL RAMIREZ, HAVING COMPLIED WITH THE PROVISIONS OF CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD RULING #59, IS RESTORED TO GOOD STANDING. RULING #59, ISSUED AT LOS ALAMITOS QUARTER HORSE RACING ASSOCIATION ON MARCH 3, 2019, IS SET ASIDE.  
IN ADDITION, MARCIAL RAMIREZ SHALL SIGN A TEST AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA HORSE RACING BOARD.

The foregoing ruling was issued as we learned that the rider had satisfied the term of the ruling which suspended him last year.

**(5) RIDERS OFF MOUNTS**

Jockey Jonathan Roman called during office hours to inform us that he would not be available to ride this evening as he had to take his wife to the doctor. Early in the racing program, a representative for Jairo Rangel called and said that the rider had been in an auto accident earlier in the day and could not ride. She also indicated that Jose Nicasio would not be riding as he was injured in the same incident as Rangel. Replacement riders were named.

The statements did not ring true as there was hesitancy as to the cause of the injuries to Rangel and Nicasio; we are certain that there will be more to come on this matter.

**(6) STEWARDS' INQUIRY-NO CHANGE**

The inquiry sign was posted after the second race as the Stewards reviewed light contact during the stretch run between the first and seventh place finishers, #1 Mergie Troid (C. Franco) and #5 Virginia Hall (E. Payeras). After speaking with the riders and reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to let the original order of finish stand. Review showed that both riders were going for the same hole between horses and Franco got there first.

**(7) REFUND**

A refund was ordered in the third race as #3 Dutt Bart flipped in the starting gate, prompting Racing Veterinarian Becky Fitzgerald to recommend that the horse be declared. The resulting refund amounted to \$30,296.51.

**(8) STEWARDS' INQUIRY INTO START-HORSE DEEMED A STARTER**

The inquiry sign was posted following the fourth race as the Stewards reviewed the start of #2 Ana Lisa. After speaking with Starter Gary Brinson and reviewing video of the incident, the Stewards unanimously voted to declare the horse a "starter". Video showed the horse throwing its head coincident with the stall doors opening, causing it to break very slowly. Since the horse caused the problem, there was no refund.

**(9) DAILY ATTENDANCE & HANDLE**

On track	562	\$76,561.30
Off track	1,697	\$325,213.00
Out of state	N/A	\$944,740.68
Total	2,259	\$1,346,514.98

**TRACK SAFETY REPORT**

The weekly inspection was conducted on February 16, 2020. There were no equine deaths to report this week. During this reporting period, 10 horses were added to the Veterinarian's List as follows: 3 for soundness, 4 for injury, 2 for sickness and 1 for bleeding. Five horses previously on the Veterinarian's List were examined and removed from the list. This report was submitted by Steward Tom Ward.

### **SUMMARY**

	Wed	Thurs	Fri 02/14	Sat 02/15	Sun 02/16	Week	Meet
<b>Accidents</b>	D		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Cal-Bred Races</b>	A		0	0	0	0	0
<b>Claims</b>	R		6	2	3	11	58
<b>Disqualification</b>	K		0	0	0	0	6
<b>Inquiries</b>		D	0	0	2	2	14
<b>Refunds</b>		A	3	4	4	11	70
<b>Rulings</b>		Y	3	0	5	8	39
<b>Voided Claims</b>		S	0	0	0	0	6

Stewards' Attendance: Stewards Tom Ward, Scott Chaney, James Dreyer and Safety Steward David Nuesch were in attendance during this reporting period.

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Tom Ward, Steward

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Scott Chaney, Steward

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James Dreyer, Steward

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David Nuesch, Safety Steward